

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method of making a material, said method comprising generating a foamed hydrophilic polymer solution and treating said foamed hydrophilic polymer solution with sufficient energy and for a sufficiently short time that a polymer foam having an open-cell structure is formed.
2. (original) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic polymer comprises gelatin or a derivative thereof.
3. (currently amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, wherein the step of treating the foamed hydrophilic polymer solution comprises exposing it to a source of microwave radiation.
4. (original) A method as claimed in Claim 3, in which the step of treating the foamed hydrophilic polymer solution lasts for 5 minutes or less.
5. (original) A method as claimed in Claim 4, in which the step of treating the foamed hydrophilic polymer solution lasts for 2 minutes or less.
6. (currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the step of generating the foamed hydrophilic polymer solution comprises high-shear stirring of a hydrophilic polymer solution such that air is entrained in said hydrophilic polymer forming bubbles therein.
7. (currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1, wherein the step of generating the foamed hydrophilic polymer solution comprises adding a physical or chemical blowing agent to a solution of the hydrophilic polymer, and interacting with said blowing agent to cause it to decompose, thereby generating a gas.

8. (original) A method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the step of interacting with the blowing agent comprises heating the solution.
9. (original) A method as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the step of interacting with the blowing agent comprises adding an acid to said solution to react with the blowing agent, thereby generating gas.
10. (currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~Claim 1, which further comprises the step of coating the foamed hydrophilic polymer solution onto a support substrate to form a coated support substrate prior to the step of treating said foamed hydrophilic polymer solution to form the polymer foam.
11. (original) A method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the step of treating the foamed hydrophilic polymer solution results in drying the coated support substrate.
12. (currently amended) A material obtainable by the method of ~~any of Claims 1 to 11~~Claim 1.
13. (original) An ink-jet receiver comprising a material according to Claim 12.
14. (currently amended) ~~An~~The ink-jet receiver of claim 13, comprising a support and an ink-receiving layer on said support, said ink receiving layer comprising ~~a hydrophilic polymer foam material obtainable by the method of any one of Claims 1 to 9~~said material.
15. (canceled)